

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the "ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE" as follows. Applicants attach to this paper a clean copy of the amended Abstract, labeled "Replacement Abstract".

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical pickup apparatus includes first and second light sources; an objective lens; a spherical aberration correcting optical unit; and a chromatic aberration correcting optical element which includes a diffractive surface on at least one of optical surfaces of the chromatic aberration correcting optical element such that a diffractive structure which is constructed by a plurality of ring-shaped zones separated by fine steps is formed on the diffractive surface, wherein the depth of steps along an optical axis is designed so that $n2_1$, which is a diffraction order of a diffracted ray having a largest diffraction efficiency among diffracted rays caused when the second light flux enters into the diffractive structure, is a lower order than $n1_1$, which is a diffraction order of a diffracted ray having a largest diffraction efficiency among diffracted light rays caused when the ~~second~~ first light flux enters into the diffractive structure.